

13 February 1958

RWD/JM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 12 February 1958

PRESENT: Mr. Cutler, Mr. Dearborn, Mr. Dulles, Mr. Gray,  
Mr. Herter, Mr. Smith, Mr. Sprague, Mr. Strauss,  
Mr. Washburn, Mr. Staats

1. Situation in Rumania

Attention was called to a cable from USIA London, stating that the New York Times was planning to send a man to Bucharest to investigate mounting reports of unrest there. A suggestion was made that the DCI might consider including Rumania in his next intelligence briefing of the NSC. This was considered to be unnecessary since two items on Rumania have appeared in recent issues of the CIA Daily Digest and the Bulletin.

2. Weekly Activity Report

Mr. Staats explained how the Weekly Activity Report is prepared. He emphasized particularly that there is little time for coordination on all items, and therefore the report should not be viewed as authoritative. He stressed that it was considered a worthwhile vehicle for information even though items in it have not been formalized or cleared with the responsible departments or agencies. He added that the criteria for inclusion of items are currently being discussed by the Board Assistants.

3. Cancellation of NSC 123

The results of the limited meeting of January 29, at which it was agreed to cancel NSC 123 were outlined for the benefit of the Board members who had not been represented. Mr. Sprague said that upon further consideration by Defense, and particularly by the Joint Staff, Pentagon officials felt that some provision should be

NSC review(s) completed.

made for evacuation of limited numbers of people other than those of interest to CIA. He said that this view might be raised when the cancellation is considered by the National Security Council.

4. Nuclear Tests

Mr. Cutler commented that Dr. Teller's recent article in LIFE which explains the need for continuing nuclear tests was one of the best he has ever seen. It developed that Admiral Strauss had collaborated in the preparation of this article. It was generally agreed that as wide a circulation as possible should be given to the article and to the arguments developed in it.

5. HARDTACK Tests

Mr. Herter read a letter from Defense to State regarding arrangements for the HARDTACK tests which will take place in the Pacific. It developed that this letter had not been coordinated with the AEC. Admiral Strauss expressed little concern at the oversight, saying that AEC and Defense would be able to come to an agreement on general arrangements.

Admiral Strauss said that the United States finds itself in a somewhat embarrassing position with regard to invitations to foreign observers. The President had said in a press conference several months ago that one of the objectives of our testing program was to develop clean bombs and that he would welcome observers from other countries who could see for themselves what we are accomplishing in this connection. It now appears that it is very difficult, if not impossible, to demonstrate any progress toward cleanliness in our bombs. As Admiral Strauss put it, any assertions that we make toward this end will have to be taken at their face value; it can be expected that our friends will believe what we say and our enemies will not.

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7. Cooperation with the Soviets in Eradicating Malaria

Mr. Smith called the group's attention to the fact that there has as yet been no answer from Moscow to the President's offer to join with the USSR in eradicating malaria, along with heart disease and cancer. He felt that we should press this part of the offer in order to put the Soviets on a spot and exploit what are obviously reasons of self-interest in agreeing with part of the health program but not all of it. He suggested that this might be pursued with Ambassador Menshikov, particularly since he appears to be making every effort to be agreeable.

  
ALLEN W. DULLES  
Director

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